RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 3752

S/N 10/822,190 <u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: DUNSTER ET AL. Examiner: HWU, DAVIS D.

Serial No.: 10/822,190 Group Art Unit: 3752

Filed: APRIL 8, 2004 Docket No.: 14036.44US01

Due Date: JUNE 14, 2008 Confirmation No. 2309

Title: FIRE EXTINGUISHER DISCHARGE METHOD AND APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on March 14, 2008 in which all of the pending claims were newly rejected. Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Status Summary

Claims 7, 10-13 and 18 were withdrawn in the response to restriction requirement of June 29, 2007. Claims 19, 20 and 21 were previously cancelled. Claim 1-6, 8, 9, 14-17 and 22-24 are newly rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 14-17 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Connell (US 5,678,637) in view of Woodward (US 3,828,855). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

O'Connell discloses a fire extinguishing system which, as noted in the Office Action, includes a source 2 (which is a container of heated water – column 3 at line 25), a nozzle body 35 having a wall defining an interior cavity, and at least one extinguishant outlet 37 formed in the wall for discharging extinguishant fluid.